

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Poland/USSR	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Difficulties in Transshipment of Mineral Ore at Zurawica	DATE DISTR.	3 December 1954
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1. Iron ore is imported to Poland from the USSR via the Zurawica transshipment station. Here the ore is transloaded from Soviet to Polish railroad cars, or an exchange of wheel sets (zestawow kolowych) takes place.
2. At present, there are not sufficient transloading platforms, and no installations are available in winter for thawing the mineral ore, which in its frozen state is very difficult to handle.
3. The method of exchanging the bogies is not widely employed because:
 - a. The Soviet cars have automatic couplings and cannot be mixed with Polish cars, which are not similarly equipped.
 - b. It is therefore necessary to use Soviet cars as separate trains, which causes technical difficulties in communications.
 - c. After exchange from Soviet to Polish bogies, the automatic brakes of Soviet cars do not function properly and trains made up of such cars cannot develop normal speed.

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